

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

BOUNDARY MARKERS ALONG THE MASON-DIXON LINE (THEMATIC GROUP)  
(Mason and Dixon's) West Line, 42nd Mile Stone

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Mason-Dixon Line: Milestone No. 42 (1900-03 Resurvey Monument No. 45)

**2 LOCATION** (not for publication)

STREET & NUMBER off east side of West Liberty Road, between Leibs Road, MD/T549 PA

CITY, TOWN

Gorsuch Mills

☒ VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

MD: 2 / PA: 19

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

MD: Baltimore / PA: York

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT  
☐ BUILDING(S)  
☐ STRUCTURE  
☐ SITE  
☒ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☒ PUBLIC  
☐ PRIVATE  
☐ BOTH  
**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**  
☐ IN PROCESS  
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

N/A

## STATUS N/A

☐ OCCUPIED  
☐ UNOCCUPIED  
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS  
**ACCESSIBLE**  
☒ YES: RESTRICTED  
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED  
☐ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM  
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK  
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS  
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC  
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION  
☐ MILITARY ☒ OTHER: state boundary marker

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY** (monument only)

NAME State of Maryland/Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
(see Thematic Group NR nomination form) Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION** N/A  
(see surrounding property ownership list)

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS** (Also see Thematic Group NR nomination form)

TITLE Baltimore County Historic Sites Inventory

DATE

BA-1561 entered 3/8/79

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☒ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

Baltimore County Office of Planning, County Courts Building

CITY, TOWN

Towson

STATE  
Maryland

**7 DESCRIPTION**

**CONDITION**

—EXCELLENT  
☒GOOD  
—FAIR

—DETERIORATED  
—RUINS  
—UNEXPOSED

**CHECK ONE**

☒UNALTERED  
—ALTERED

**CHECK ONE**

☒ORIGINAL SITE  
—MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Milestone No. 42(45) marks Mason and Dixon's 42nd horizontal mile west of the initial stone at the northeast corner of Maryland, the beginning point of their West Line. It is the easternmost of the 12 monuments now marking the Baltimore/York county boundary and is an original milestone of 1766 at an original site surveyed and preliminarily marked in 1765.

The area here is rural, gently rolling, dotted with scattered farms, several locally-owned orchards and patches of woodlands. The site is located about 1 mile north-northeast of the small crossroads settlement of Gersuch Mills, Maryland, and about 2 miles south-southeast of the town of Stewartstown, Pennsylvania; about 900' east of the main road; about 6' from the south edge of one of the Blevin orchard service lanes, at the north edge of a sloping deciduous woodland; at a point about 2' above the lane grade, thus somewhat protected from farm machinery. It cannot be seen from West Liberty Road, but is visible from the lane when closeby and vegetation is dormant.

The monument, reset in 1902 during the course of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary, presently stands only about 1' above ground, as compared with the presumably original height of about 3' or more. It is in place, firmly set, and in fairly good condition, though weatherworn and with chips at all corners and edges. As with all original Mason and Dixon West Line monuments: it is an embellished, squared oolitic limestone post with a low pyramidal top, and was quarried and carved in England. The stone now measures about 11½" wide by about 13½" high above ground on the north side (facing Pennsylvania); the letter P is scarcely discernible and the surface is weatherworn and scarred. The east side measures about 11½" wide by about 12½" above ground; the fluting is weatherworn and only bits of margins remain. The south (Maryland) side measures about 11" wide by about 11" high above ground; the letter M and other embellishments are clear and intact. The west side measures about 11" wide by about 11" high above ground; most of the fluting and margins remain, but the surface is weatherworn. The top planes are weatherworn and barely discernible; no fluting remains.

(For an additional description of the original Mason and Dixon milestones and the 1900-03 Resurvey method of resetting the monuments, see the NR Thematic Gr nomination form.)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		boundary surveying	

SPECIFIC DATES 1766 (reset 1902)

~~BALTIMORE/YORK COUNTY~~ Charles Mason & Jeremiah Dixon  
SURVEYORS

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Milestone No. 42(45) is significant primarily as one of the 111 original Mason and Dixon milestones still standing along the West Line. The site was surveyed and preliminarily marked in 1765, and the monument set the following year, where it remains to this day, although reset in 1902 more securely at the time of the 1900-03 Resurvey of the Maryland-Pennsylvania boundary. Individually, and as one of the 10 (of 12) original monuments marking the present Baltimore/York county boundary, No. 42(45) also is notable as one of a diminishing number of objects and structures in both counties, visibly identified with our Colonial heritage.

(For a statement of significance of the Baltimore/York county marker series, see the capsule summary sheet. For a statement of significance of the entire West Line and markers, see Thematic Group NR nomination form.)

## HISTORY AND SUPPORT

(See Thematic Group NR nomination form, Item 8)

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

See National Register thematic group nomination form

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION N/A

UTM: 18.36447.439776

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE Maryland

COUNTY Baltimore

STATE Pennsylvania

COUNTY York

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

Alice Martin (volunteer historic sites surveyor)

ORGANIZATION

Maryland Historical Trust/Maryland Geological Survey

DATE

2/10/80 (site surveyed)

STREET & NUMBER

14308 Mount Avenue

TELEPHONE

301/472-2128

CITY OR TOWN

Phoenix

STATE

Maryland 21131

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

BA-1561

MASON DIXON WEST LINE: MILESTONE 42 (45)  
NORRISVILLE QUADRANGLE  
MARYLAND - PENNSYLVANIA  
USGS 7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC)  
1957 PHOTOREV. 1974 SCALE: 1"=2000'

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY



5663' SW  
(GLEN ROCK)

76°37'30" 361000m E.

2 320 000 FEET (PA.)

YORK 20 MI.  
WINTERSTOWN 6.3 MI.

364 35'

39°45' 4401000m N.

150 000 FEET  
(PA.)

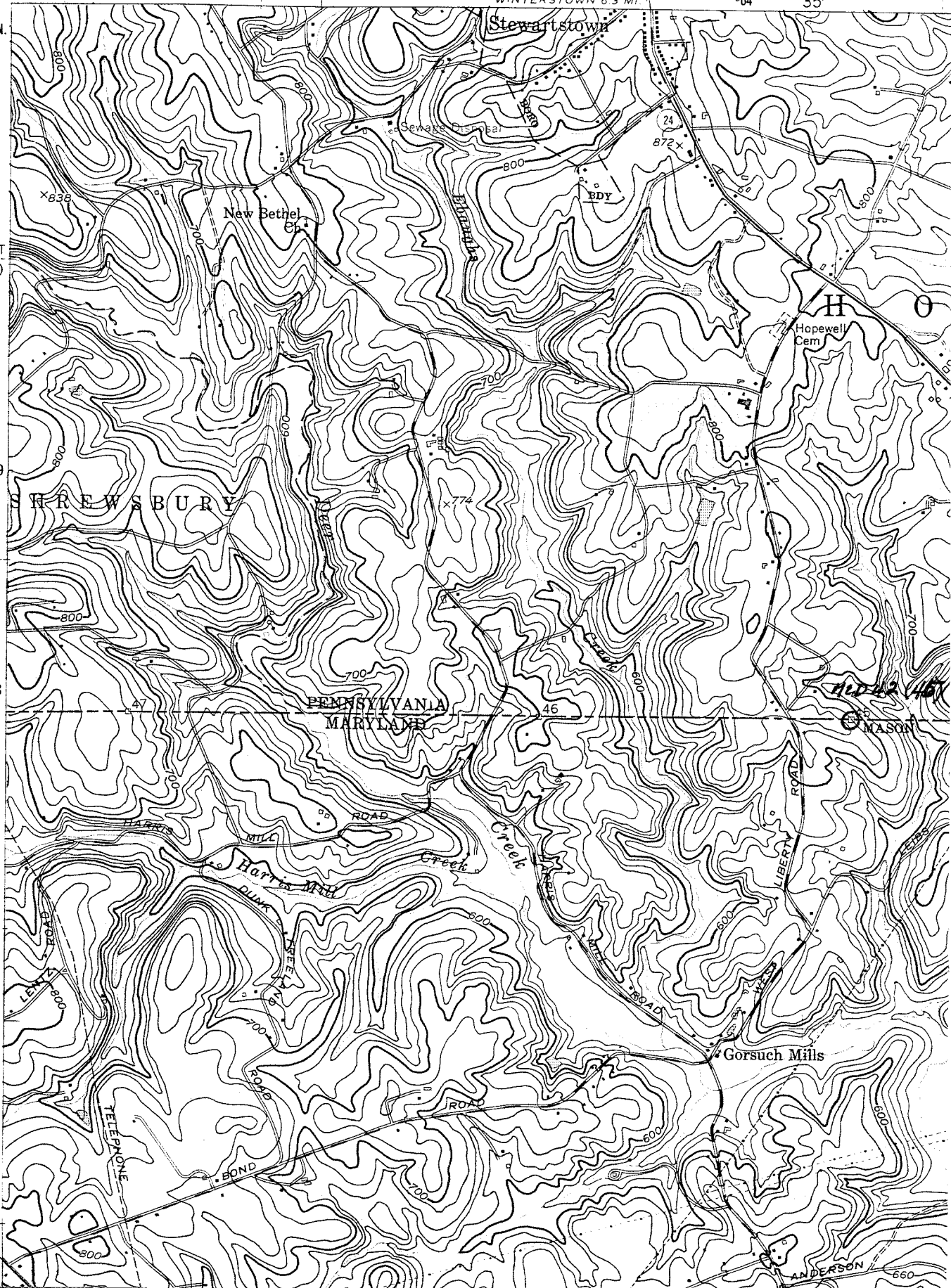
4399

4398

4397

42'30"

YORK, PA. 20 MI.  
1.7 MI. TO INTERSTATE 83





Mason & Dixon West line;  
Milestone #2<sup>(45)</sup> (Balto Co)  
Sw corner (-/14)

(slide)  
~~Photo~~: Alice Martin 2/10/80  
(1980.5.16)





MADISON DIXON'S WEST LINE: MILESTONE NO. 42 (45)  
SW CORNER (-14)

PHOTO: ALICE MARTIN 2/10/80 (1980.6.22)



MASON EDIXON'S WEST LINE: MILESTONE NO. 42 (45)  
NE CORNER (-/P)

PHOTO: ALICE MARTIN 2/10/80 (1980.6.19)